

GERMANS DO NOT DESTROY LILLE AS BRITISH CAPTURE IT BRITAIN, THROUGH ASQUITH, SUPPORTS WILSON

Subscribe Loan In Full Or Victories Will Become Defeats—McAdoo To Wheeler

Since early September the War Bureau has been endeavoring to get Secretary of the Treasury, McAdoo to speak in Bridgeport in behalf of the Fourth Liberty Loan. Mr. McAdoo tentatively accepted the invitation subject of course to the pressure of his official business. Mr. McAdoo telegraphed the War Bureau that he would give a definite reply as to the day he would come early this week. The telegram came last night. Unfortunately the Secretary is pressed with public duties that he cannot get away. His telegram is a ringing appeal to the people of Bridgeport to subscribe to the Fourth Liberty Loan. It is given below entire:

Hon. George W. Wheeler,
Chairman Executive Committee, Bridgeport War Bureau.

Bridgeport, Connecticut.

"I have been trying to arrange my time so that I could accept your kind invitation to speak in Bridgeport for the Fourth Liberty Loan. I deeply regret that the pressure here is so intense and especially at the moment that it is impossible for me to get away. Please assure the people of Bridgeport of my appreciation of the invitation and of the support they have given previous Government Loans but urge upon them the fact that never has any Liberty Loan been so vital to the Country's welfare as the Fourth Liberty Loan. It must be subscribed in full unless we want to turn the brilliant victories of our armies in France into defeats. Certainly no patriotic American can contemplate that for a moment and certainly every patriotic American will subscribe to the utmost limit of his means to enable our gallant soldiers and sailors to continue their push against the Kaiser with that irresistible strength which will bring triumphant victory and early peace."

(Signed),

W. G. McADOO.

ASQUITH HEARTILY ENDORSES PRESIDENT WILSON, SPOKESMAN FOR ENTENTE NATIONS

* MUST CONSIDER CONDITIONS *
* Rome, Wednesday, Oct. 16— *
* President Wilson's decision to *
* send a separate answer to Aus- *
* tria-Hungary's peace proposal is *
* treated in a semi-official note *
* issued here as follows: *
* "President Wilson will give a *
* separate answer to Austria- *
* Hungary, as it is evidently *
* necessary to give special consid- *
* eration to the peculiar ethical *
* and internal conditions of the *
* Central Empires in order that *
* President Wilson's high aims of *
* liberty and justice may be at- *
* tained." *

London, Wednesday, Oct. 16 — Herbert H. Asquith, former premier speaking at the National Liberal club here today, said there was no man in the Allied world better qualified to be a spokesman of the Entente nations than President Wilson. Both of Mr. Wilson's recent replies to Germany's peace proposals were heartily endorsed by Mr. Asquith. He spoke in part as follows:

"The German peace overtures are sincere in the sense that they evidently have proceeded from the German people who in their heart of hearts have given up the game. If, in addressing her overtures, not to the European allies, but to our American associates, Germany calculated to sow the seeds of possible dissension and jealousy, it was another illustration of the chronic clumsiness of German diplomacy."

"There is no one better qualified to be the spokesman of our common cause than President Wilson. His two replies to the German notes were both in spirit and substance, exactly what the occasion required. They were dignified and outspoken and went to the heart of the matter, leaving no loopholes for dialectical or rhetorical escape."

"We must be sure that the government has invited us to deal with it is not the old Prussian militarism dressed up in a Democratic disguise. That is the great question. The reply to it can come only from the German people themselves."

GARFIELD LIFTS GASOLINE BAN

Washington, Oct. 17.—Fuel Administrator Garfield today lifted the ban on gasolineless Sundays, effective at once.

Should gasoline stocks again fall dangerously low, it was stated at the fuel administration, the request will be renewed. It is probably that priority orders will begin for shipment of gasoline overseas.

DIES OF PNEUMONIA.

Andover, Conn., Oct. 17.—Horace J. Backus, 29, who was in the House in the 1914 session and sat beside his brother, E. S. Backus of Thompson, died today of pneumonia. He was deputy sheriff of Tolland county and chairman of the Republican town committee.

CUBA ARRESTS PROMINENT MEN

Havana, Oct. 17.—Cuban secret service officials have arrested eight of Havana's most prominent German merchants who were promptly interned with other alien enemies.

The prisoners are Maximilian Paetzold, former Austro-Hungarian consul at Havana; Enrique Heibut, Charles B. Bernies, J. H. Kolbert, Paul Oetgen, Robert Kaldre, Louis Claessing and Paul Shoen.

Will Have Fifth Loan Even If Peace Comes

Washington, Oct. 17.—There will be no extension of the Liberty Loan subscription period beyond Saturday night, Secretary McAdoo stated emphatically today.

Furthermore, said the secretary it would be necessary to have a fifth loan and possibly a sixth loan, regardless of the outcome of Germany's peace negotiations.

ZACHAR'S MOTHER TOLD HE'S BEEN BADLY WOUNDED

Joseph Zachar, 24 years old, of Co. F, 11th Infantry, U. S., is among those officially reported as seriously wounded in the casualty lists today. Zachar resided at 164 Hallam street with his mother, Mrs. Bertha Zachar Stenolowicz, previous to his enlistment on June 19, 1917. He was stationed at Fort Slocum and later at Chattanooga, Tenn.

His mother received a telegram from Washington on Oct. 10, telling her of her son's condition. In his last letter to his mother, dated Aug. 17, Zachar wrote that he had been in the first line trenches for twelve days and had been transferred to another trench. Zachar was a resident of this city for the last seven years.

DRAFT CALLS FOR MEN OVER THIRTY MARCH 1

Washington, Oct. 17.—Draft calls for men who have passed their thirty-seventh birthdays are expected to begin about March 1. Plans for bringing the older class of new registrants into camp have not been completed, but the approximate date of the first call was disclosed today by publication of testimony by Provost Marshal General Crowder before the House Military committee.

In all, General Crowder told the committee, 2,399,000 newly registered men between 18 and 45 will be called before July 1 and of that number more than 2,000,000 will be physically fit for fighting men. The call for general service will be divided as follows:

October, 345,000; November, 201,000; December, 197,500; January, 147,500; February, 244,000; March, April, May and June, 344,000 each month. These men will supply both the army and the navy and marine corps.

In addition, 20,000 men for limited service will be called each month. General Crowder said the work of classification should be completed by June 1.

AVIATORS FALL 100 FEET; NOT INJURED AT ALL

New Britain, Conn., Oct. 17.—Forced to make a landing on account of fog two United States battleplanes were badly demolished in Cromwell, just over the Berlin town line today. The flyers escaped uninjured. A third machine made a safe landing in Berlin. One machine was not heard from and the members of the flying feet were at a loss to know where the ship was.

The escape from death experienced by the flyers who made bad landings was thrilling. Lieutenant James A. Cong and Sergeant John Y. Morse, in one plane landed in the woods, coming down on the nose of their machine. Lieutenant Elliott and Sergeant Brown in a second machine hit a tree and were thrown out. Lieut. Kenneth Reed and Sergeant Charles Craig in the third made an almost perfect landing at Jarvis Farm, near the Berlin turnpike. The machines came from Bendley Field, Commack, L. I.

TAKE BALLOON TRIPS.

Washington, Oct. 17.—Major General William L. Kenly, chief of operations of the Army Air Service, was a passenger in a free balloon piloted by Major J. C. McCoy, which rose from Potomac Park this morning, heading northward and bound for an unannounced destination.

Baker's License Suspended by Scoville

Hartford, Oct. 17.—As the first result of a bakers' feud which began in New Britain several months ago, the Food Administration announced a two weeks' suspension of the license of the New Britain Hebrew Supply Co., whose bakeshop is at 277 North street, New Britain. This bakery concern was organized last spring at the time when the New Britain local dispute between certain bakers and the public was at its height. On evidence secured by Eugene L. Faure, a Food Administration inspector, the work of bakers managers were cited to appear before Federal Food Administrator Robert Scoville, for a hearing last week. They were charged with making short weight bread, and with using an insufficient amount of substitutes. They were found guilty of baking bread which weighed considerably less than the 14 ounces certified to the New Britain city sealer of weights and measures. Upon Mr. Scoville's presentation of the facts to Washington the Enforcement Division promptly upheld Mr. Scoville's recommendation and issued a formal order closing up the Hebrew Bakery for two weeks beginning Thursday, October 17.

MUNSEY'S NEPHEW DEAD.

New Britain, Conn., Oct. 17.—Earl Leroy Hyde, nephew of Frank A. Munsey, and manager of the local store in New Britain, died last night of pneumonia. He was 27 years of age. His mother, Mr. Munsey's sister, is seriously ill at a hotel here.

UNNECESSARY SHOOTING AT KEYSTONE CLUB JUDGE REED CHARGES

"There are four possible verdicts which you may render in this case," Judge J. H. Reed, in the Superior Court, told the jury which is considering the guilt or innocence of William Thomas (Baby Doll) and Jacob Hawkins (Texas), for the murder of Norris Pannill at the Keystone club, December 16 last.

"You may render a verdict of first degree murder, for second degree murder, for manslaughter, or a verdict of not guilty," he continued, after he had defined the law relating to murder.

Judge Reed reviewed the claim of the state that Pannill was killed by a bullet fired by Hawkins in the hallway of the Keystone club on the night of Dec. 16, and pointed out that it is not the duty of the jury to determine how Pannill met death in the manner alleged by the state. He showed that Pannill, it is agreed, died from the effects of a wound with a bullet of .32 calibre, called attention to the fact that no pistol firing such a bullet had been produced by the state, although it is alleged by the state such a revolver was fired by Hawkins, and he also told the jury to determine if Pannill met death in the manner alleged by the state. He showed that Pannill, it is agreed, died from the effects of a wound with a bullet of .32 calibre, called attention to the fact that no pistol firing such a bullet had been produced by the state, although it is alleged by the state such a revolver was fired by Hawkins, and he also told the jury to determine if Pannill met death in the manner alleged by the state.

"Burns," he said, "claimed he fired his revolver over his shoulder. There may be a question what he hit, but there is no question he did not hit the black hand at which he said he fired."

"There was much shooting, unnecessary shooting, at this place during this affair. It is possible that the police embraced this opportunity created by the situation to make a raid on this club and 'clean it out' where they arrested 125 persons. The officers had a right to go there and demand admission to make an arrest or investigate a complaint without a warrant on speedy information, and to arrest Thomas for assault, but they had no right to enter the place and arrest anyone else for any other offense, and it does not appear there was any other offense committed in their presence."

"The question of guilt or innocence is the shooting of Pannill in the hallway of the club by Hawkins aided and abetted by Thomas or under his counsel or command. The bullet which killed Pannill is agreed to have been a .32 bullet, and I suggest that the only .32 pistol presented here is the one in possession of Sergt. Burns. You must consider the possibility of whether it was a bullet fired by Burns which struck Pannill."

Judge Reed admonished the members of the jury that the fact both defendants are colored men should not be used to their prejudice, and in closing his charge paid a high tribute to the ability, courtesy, and aid given to the state of Connecticut by Attorney W. H. Lewis, counsel for Thomas. He then outlined the possible verdicts and told the jury to retire.

Judge Carl Foster, state's attorney, concluded his argument at 11 o'clock, claiming a conviction of both of the accused. Judge Reed's charge delivered after a short recess lasted about an hour. The jury retired at 12:15 taking the exhibits in the case.

Up to press hour they had not agreed upon a verdict.

MEDICAL SOCIETY MEETS TO COMBAT INFLUENZA SCOURGE

Cases Increase 244 in 24 Hours While Fatalities Grow to 53—Health Officer Tells Why He is Opposed to Crowd Prevention.

Bridgeport Medical Society will meet in Barnum Institute, 9 o'clock tonight, taking time from a ceaseless round of effort to consider precautions by which the influenza epidemic may be met, controlled and cared for. Health Officer Brown will address the doctors, asking their complete cooperation.

The number of influenza cases reported to the Health Department for the 24 hours ending at nine o'clock this morning was 244, as against 218 cases reported for the previous 24 hours. This shows a decline of 24 cases, and brings the total number of people stricken in Bridgeport to 2,071. Nine deaths, however, were reported in the past 24 hours bringing the total fatalities to 53. This is an increase of one over the previous day's report. The death rate here is about two and a half per cent. One and one-tenth per cent. of the population have been stricken.

In defending his stand in continuing to permit crowding, Dr. Brown said he is following the example set by Dr. Chapin of Providence, father of the means for combating and controlling communicable disease.

When asked for statistics by which he concludes that crowd precautions are without value to limit the disease, Dr. Brown said: Cincinnati, Baltimore, Philadelphia and Worcester. In all these places, schools, theaters and other places were closed as soon as the disease gained an early foothold, and today they are among the most ravaged spots in the country. I conscientiously believe that the epidemic can be better fought, by preaching to the people who fail to read signs and newspapers from a public platform, than by closing these places and leaving these people who refuse to read in ignorance."

This afternoon there will be a meeting of the Bridgeport Board of Health attended by Dr. J. H. Callahan, Dr. David M. Monahan and William L. Zepp, and the local situation will be thoroughly gone over.

AMERICAN ARMY STILL SUCCESSFULLY ADVANCING

With the American Army Northwest of Verdun, Wednesday, Oct. 16.—(By The Associated Press)—In its successful advance north of the Argonne forest today the American First army reached Champigneulle, one mile north of St. Juvin.

Von Arnim's Army Flees Retreat Fast Assuming Proportions Of A Rout

Retirement is From North Sea to Region of Lille—Seventeen Divisions in This Army—No Explosions or Fires in Lille—French, British and Belgians Push Forward Vigorously in Flanders—Belgian March on Ostend.

(By The Associated Press)

Lille has been captured by the British. The Germans or leaving Lille did not set fire to the buildings in the city or cause any explosions.

The whole of the German army of General Von Arnim is in retreat from the North Sea to the region of Lille, having been beaten back over the ground by the Allied attacks today.

The retirement is assuming the proportions of a rout. Seventeen divisions comprise the army of Von Arnim.

Allied pressure on all sides of the salient of which Lille was the center compelled the enemy to give up the city, the largest town of France captured by the Germans and for four years an important unit of enemy defense system.

The fall of Lille comes almost simultaneously with the launching of an offensive by Field Marshal Haig against the new German defenses south of Valenciennes. His troops today are storming forward south of Le Cateau across the Selle river where they were halted last week.

In Flanders the Allies have gained important successes while from the Oise to the Meuse the Allied pressure is maintained strongly. In the angle north of Laon the Germans are apparently retreating.

Since the beginning of the week there has been little heavy fighting in the area southeast of Cambrai, where the British and Americans made such rapid strides last week after the capture of Cambrai. The Germans resisted strongly on the line of the Selle and it is these defenses that the British and probably the Americans under the same command are assaulting.

South of Bohain, the southern end of the attacking front, the French troops are reported in contact with the Germans along the whole Oise-Serre front. This undoubtedly means the Germans are retreating from the awkward angle between the two rivers in a continuation of the withdrawal movement from the Laon massif.

On both sides of the Meuse the Americans maintain their pressure which resulted Wednesday in the capture of important ground north and northeast of the Argonne forest. East of the river the Americans have gained important high ground.

On a front of more than 30 miles in Flanders the Belgians, French and British continue to push forward vigorously. Courtrai and Thourout, important railway centers, have fallen to the Belgians and British while in the center the French have taken Lientervelde and Ardoye. Courtrai probably is the most important of the rail centers feeding the Lille area.

Thourout is some miles southwest of Bruges which is less than ten miles from the Dutch frontier.

Belgian forces under command of King Albert, which crossed the Yser river, are marching on Ostend, a seaport on the English channel.

The fate of the Belgian defenses along the Belgian coast and in the great Lille industrial area has been sealed by the continued advance of the Allied armies under King Albert on the 30-mile front in Flanders. The significance of the evacuation of the Belgian coastline is far greater than the gain of Flanders territory with its many airdromes and submarine bases.

The extreme right wing of the German defenses in the west has been wrenched away from the protecting sea. Henceforth, the immense line which has been buttressed by the sea on one end and by the Swiss frontier on the other, forcing the Allies all ways to attack frontally, can be outflanked.

The Allied rush has been so quick that the hope is expressed here that Lille, Thourout and Aulnois will be found almost intact.

The operations in Flanders are bound to have a vital effect on the whole western line.

General Ludendorff will be obliged to seek to re-establish his fast crumbling front far in the rear of the present operations. He must preserve at all costs the Ardennes pivot, failure of which would mean an Allied disaster. That is why the Germans are offering such determined resistance to the French north of Vouziers and to the Americans on both sides of the Meuse.

Paris, Oct. 17.—Resistance by the Germans is crumbling all along the battle front except in the region of the Argonne and northern Champagne. There American troops under Generals Létout, Cameron and Bullard and French troops under General Gouraud are engaged in desperate fighting.

The Prussian Guards, ceding ground inch by inch, are dying, but not surrendering in an effort to save their right wing.

SOVIETS ORDER GRAND DUKE NICHOLAS SHOT

Paris, Oct. 17.—A Russian wireless message in English, dated Tsarskoe Zelo 8:25 p. m., October 15, received here reports the following information as having been received from Ekaterinburg:

"According to the official declarations of the Soviet chiefs Nicholas Romanoff has been tried and condemned to death. He will be shot during the night of the sixteenth."

The Nicholas Romanoff referred to is supposed to be Grand Duke Nicholas, the former commander in chief of the Russian army.

Latest reports on Grand Duke Nicholas said he was living in the Crimea.

BIG GAIN IN COAL LOADING

Washington, Oct. 17.—Continued increase in coal loading as compared with 1917 was shown in a report for the weeks ending Sept. 28 and Oct. 5, made public by the railroad administration today.

For the week ending Sept. 28, a gain of 38,000 cars over the same week in 1917 was shown, and for the week ending Oct. 5, the increase over the corresponding week in 1917 was 20,000 cars.

These figures show a total increase of 882,112 cars for 1918 over the same period in 1917.

Paris, Wednesday, Oct. 16.—Austro-German forces in Western Serbia have retired into Montenegro and have evacuated the town of Diakova, on the Serbo-Montenegrin frontier, according to an official statement from the French war office tonight.